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SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

A VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL COURSE

for

INDIAN GROUPS

Prepared by

Lucile Desjardins

MAR 2 3 1943

Preface

I have the honor of presenting to you this volume entitled "Sharing the Good News," a vacation Bible school course for use in our Indian Missions prepared by Miss Lucile Desjardins. In this book Miss Desjardins has done an outstanding piece of creative curriculum work. We have been delighted with the fine cooperation which has made this volume possible. It strikes a new note in curriculum building in the field of religious education for Indian people.

We believe that you will find it a real contribution and of great value to you in the conduct of vacation Bible schools. We do not consider this edition final but rather as a preliminary, experimental setup of the material. We solicit your constructive criticisms in the expectation that the material will be revised in terms of the criticisms received. It is our hope that the use of this may be found so satisfactory that the next issue will be a printed edition including the songs and the music.

I shall be grateful for any comments that you may have after you have studied or used this material.

Respectfully submitted,

H. S. RANDOLPH, Secretary

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Preface

Note of Acknowledgments

At the Indian Seminar held in Santa Fe in the summer of 1942 there was felt the pressing need for a Vacation Bible School course which would be simple and practical enough to be used in the Indian schools the following summer.

The Seminar group developed an outline for this course under the covering title "Sharing the Good News."

The outline has been used with only slight modifications. The work in developing this course has been done cooperatively. The teachers of Bible and Religious Education and others who are familiar with the Vacation Schools at Tucson Indian Training School, at Cook Christian Training School and at Dwight Indian Training School have furnished suggestions and criticisms. So also have Rev. George Walker and Miss Ima B. Ramsay of Sacaton, Rev. William Griffin, supervisor of Choctaw Indian churches in Oklahoma and Miss Florence Marie Sayer, who supervises the Vacation Bible Schools among the Spanish-speaking churches of the Southwest. Due acknowledgment is given to all of these for their helpful criticisms and suggestions and the creative work they have put into this course in the form of original stories, handwork suggestions and suggestions for procedures. The students at Cook Christian Training School are especially to be commended for the work they have put into this course. It is to be hoped that it will prove helpful as it goes out into the churches for use in Daily Vacation Bible Schools this summer.

-Lucile Desjardins

Note of Acknowledgments

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Plans for a Daily Vacation Bible School

You have been chosen to help in a Daily Vacation Bible School this summer. This will give you an opportunity to teach little children. But teaching children the Christian religion means more than getting them so that they can repeat Bible verses and the words of new songs. This summer it should mean giving to them actual experiences of sharing some things with other people. It means living with them in such a Christian way while you are with them that they will have a very happy time without quarreling while they are learning how Christians really act toward each other.

But every teacher who tries to teach little children should have a purpose more than just giving children a good time. The purpose for this course you are to teach this summer is--

> To help boys and girls feel that they, too, are a part of a world-wide fellowship of people who love Jesus and are trying to serve him.
>
> To help them find different ways in which they can share the Good News of Jesus and his love with those in their homes, in their neighborhoods and in the world.

Keep these two aims before you all the time as you seek to lead children in this Daily Vacation Bible School in which you are to teach.

Getting Ready to Teach

Attempting to do anything worthwhile in the way of teaching means getting ready. There are two important things to do to get ready for this school.

1. Pack a supply kit or "treasure chest" filled with the things you will need to help make the school an interesting and successful one. You will need the following supplies:

   a. Bibles or New Testaments (at least one, and several if possible, so the older boys and girls may use them) You may wish to place in these some markers made out of different colors of construction paper to mark special stories and verses such as the Christmas story (Luke 2:1-20); the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7); the story of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32); story of Jesus choosing his helpers (Mark 1:16-20), etc.

   b. Pictures. These should include--

Bible pictures of the Christmas story, of Jesus healing, of Jesus teaching on the mountain-side or from the boat, of Jesus choosing his helpers. Also pictures of the first Christians, Paul, Peter, Philip and others spreading the Gospel. (See supplement for further information about these.)

Pictures of people today sharing the Good news of Jesus with others. These should include pictures of Indian Christians spreading the Gospel. Also pictures of blind people, sick people and others who need to have the Good News brought to them and whom the children in your school may be able to help.

c. Maps. If you can have a map of Palestine or one showing Paul's journeys or a map of the United States or a globe of the world, these will help to make your lessons interesting to the older boys and girls who are studying geography in school.

d. Illustrated story books. The dime store has several inexpensive books such as Stories of Jesus by Diener which you might put into your kit.

e. Work Materials. These would include pencils, paper, colored crayons, drawing paper (if this is hard to get, plain wrapping paper all smoothed out will do), rulers, scissors and whatever you need for the special handwork projects you plan to get the children to do. You will probably also need either thumb tacks or scotch tape or something you may use to fasten pictures on the wall. Plan also to carry along some pictures cut from magazines or illustrated story papers if you think the children would like to make scrapbooks.

2. But packing your kit or treasure chest is not enough. After you have packed it carefully and tied it with plenty of cord and put the name of the school on it so the children will have the fun of unpacking it on the first day, you will need to ask yourself the following questions:

Do I know the stories of all the pictures in the kit? Can I tell these stories to children so they will pay good attention and get the real meaning of the stories without having to explain to them what they mean? Can I find the stories in the Bible so as to help the older boys and girls who can read to turn to them and to read them for themselves? Have I practised all the songs I am going to teach the children so I can sing them and explain their meaning to the children? Can I make some of the simple things which I am planning to teach the children to make? Am I at home with children and do I understand how to draw them out with questions and to lead them to do things for themselves?

Since this is a course in sharing, you will need to be planning

what these children may learn to do or to make for other people which will interest them and cause them to feel that they are having a part in God's work. Here are a few suggestions of some things. Some of these may seem too difficult and others too simple for your group. Talk the matter over with your supervisor and select one or two things from which the children may choose what they would really like to do.

Possible Projects

1. The older boys and girls may draw pictures of the stories they hear. They may also write these stories in their own words and give them to other children or read them to their parents.

2. They may make picture scrapbooks for a hospital or sanitarium. (You will need magazines or pages of pictures taken from illustrated papers for this; also construction paper for the book itself, and paste.)

3. They may make Indian dolls, pottery (if clay is available), articles from wood, embroidery, simple baskets of wild grasses or willows, or weaving to give as gifts to others.

4. They may make offering plates (of wood or woven of reeds) for some Indian church or mission, and they can make waste paper baskets or candle holders or they may mount pictures to be hung on the walls of the church or Sunday School room.

5. Spatter-print wall hangings are interesting to make and not very difficult. On these you may print very short verses telling the Good News which Jesus brought to the world, such as "God is love", or "Love one another". A large one could be made to hang up back of the pulpit in the church.

6. They may help plan a worship service for the Daily Vacation Bible School on the theme "Sharing the Good News of Jesus." This might also be for the closing program.

7. They may wish to plan a simple dramatization of a story of how someone has shared the Good News of Jesus with others.

8. They may wish to share their offering with some other group of boys or girls who would not have a vacation school without their help or with some other people less fortunate than themselves.

These projects are mostly for the older boys and girls. If you have beginners in the school, simple pantomining of the easier Bible stories and freehand drawing and making scrapbook will probably be all they can manage.

Whatever you decide to do or to make, present to the boys and girls

the idea of packing a "treasure chest" into which they will put gifts so that they may share the Good News with other people. This Treasure Chest may be a box which someone will cover with paper, drawing some design on it to make it look like one of the ancient treasure chests in the old days which were buried in the ground to hide precious jewels and gold and silver. If the children have been accustomed to make things for themselves, you may have to "sell" to them the idea of making things for others. Do not force them to put everything into the chest they make but encourage them to do so, giving recognition to those who overcome their selfishness and decide to give to others. On the last day of the school or at your special closing program, you will, no doubt, wish to dedicate your Treasure Chest with its gifts for the purposes for which it is to be used.

YOUR FIRST SESSION

Imagine now you have come by car or by bus to the school where you are going to teach. If this is the case and you need to bring all your supplies with you, you might proceed as follows. Your Treasure Chest is set down on the floor or on a bench or table in the room where the children will be assembling. The first children begin to gather. One way to build up an interest and to lead the children to cooperate with you in the school and especially in the care of materials is to follow this plan. Encourage the children in a friendly way to gather around the box. Let them try to guess what is inside. But do not allow them to tear the box open and scatter the things around. Instead, when the most of them have arrived or it is starting time, tell them they can help you unpack the box but each will need to take turns helping. Let one or two untie the knots and loosen the cords, another open it up and then each may take turn lifting out different things. Perhaps you have packed some Bibles or New Testaments on the very top. As these are taken out ask the children what they will do with these in the Vacation Bible School. Open one of the Bibles at one of the places marked and read one verse such as the The Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12) or John 3:16. If there is one corner of the room where you are planning to hold your worship services, or another room, have the children place the Bible open on a table in that corner, or room, very carefully. Teach them to have respect for this book.

If pictures are next in your box, let the children take turns lifting different ones out. Talk about each picture while a child holds it, creating an interest in the stories connected with each but not telling the stories yet. Now let the children decide where in the room (on what wall space) they would like to arrange the pictures. Let them put the pictures up either with some scotch tape or thumb tacks or staples. Let them do the same with any maps you may have packed in the box.

If illustrated Bible story books come next, have the children arrange these in one corner which they may call their library. But talk about each book as it is unpacked, creating an interest in it and in the stories and pictures it contains.

Do the same with the work materials such as drawing paper, crayons, pencils, etc. Let them talk about how these might be used in the school. Then have them arranged in a "work corner" or on a "work table."

You may unpack this box and have them arrange the contents about the room in such a way that they will be taught to have care for the materials so thoughtfully gathered together. When everything has been unpacked and the box is empty, have someone put it aside very carefully since they will need to use it again, either to pack up the supplies at the end of the school or to make into a "Treasure Chest" of their own and to fill with the gifts they make during the school. All your supplies should be arranged around the room, work materials in one corner, books inanother, pictures on the wall, and the opened Bible at your worship center. As you unpack the box, stress the idea of The Good News. You might also write on the blackboard (if you have one) the title of the course, "Sharing the Good News."

Now have everyone sit down. Begin a conversation about Christmas time and what they did last Christmas and why it is such a happy time of year. Have them sing together one of the Christmas carols they know best, such as "Silent Night" or "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Read to them the Christmas story from the Bible (Luke 2:1-20) or tell to them the Christmas story. Repeat to them the following verses: "Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people, for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11)

Then tell the following story:

Would you like to hear about how someone shared the Good News of Jesus' birth with the Huron Indian tribe in the very early days of our country? Long years ago up north among the pine woods of Canada where the snow lies deep in the winter time, there was a missionary by the name of Father Jean who was spending his first Christmas among the Hurons. This missionary had told the tribe about Jesus and his way of peaceful living. But just then the Huron tribe was at war against the Iroquois tribe. There were many fierce battles between them. Father Jean treated both Iroquois and Hurons with friendliness and never carried a gun himself. He was a Christian and believed in friendliness and good will. Finally the Hurons began to see that Father Jean's way of peace was a better way to live than their own warlike ways and they too were wanting to live as Christians.

At Christmas time that year the men and the boys helped Father Jean to build a tiny chapel out in the woods near their camp. They decorated it with pine and cedar and fir boughs brought in from the forest. In this tiny chapel they arranged a manger scene. For their Christmas celebration Father Jean wrote a Christmas carol that would be their very own. He chose music for it which was like their Indian music with the sound of drums running through it. The words he wrote in language his Huron friends could understand. Instead of describing Christmas in a far-off land of Palestine, with its strange and unaccustomed ways of living, he told the story of Jesus' birth just as though it had taken place in their much loved forest home with its bark lodges. He did this so that the Indians would feel that Jesus really belonged to them. Although this story of Jesus' birth which he told them in song was not true history, it was Father Jean's way of telling his Indian friends that Jesus and the good news he brought belonged to them just as it belonged to the Jewish people of Palestine centuries ago. This is the song he wrote for them:

'Twas in the moon at winter-time
When all the birds had fled,
That mighty Gitchi Manitou
Sent angel choirs instead.
Before their light the stars grew dim,
And wandering hunters heard the hymn.

Within a lodge of broken bark
The tender Babe was found.
A ragged robe of rabbit-skin
Enwrapped his beauty round.
And as the hunter braves drew nigh
The angel song rang loud and high.

The earliest moon of winter-time
Is not so round and fair
As was the ring of glory
On the helpless infant there
While chiefs from far before him knelt
With gifts of fox and beaver pelt.

O children of the forest free,
O sons of Manitou,
The Holy Child of earth and heaven
Is born today for you.
Come kneel before the radiant Boy
Who brings you beauty, peace and joy.

Chorus - - - Jesus, your King, is born,
Jesus is born;
In excelsis gloria.

You will probably need to explain to them that the words "Gitchi Manitou" meant "God" to Huron children. Also the words in the chorus "in excelsis gloria" is one way of saying "glory to God in the highest." They may also be interested in the fact that Indians lived in bark lodges, instead of in hogans, or adobe houses.

After you have told the story and read to them the words of this song, you may wish to play it over and sing it to the children. Perhaps they will wish to learn to sing it as a part of their closing program. The words and music will be found on page 48 of the supplement.

Lead the children in prayer, thanking God especially for His gift of the Baby Jesus and asking His help as you plan together how you may share the Good News of his birth with others.

1. Play Period.
Dismiss the children for a recess or play period. During this period teach them some sort of "sharing game." (See the supplement for some suggestions.)

2. Activity Period.
After the play period, divide the children, if practical, into two groups, putting the Beginners (up through the first grade) into one group and the older boys and girls into another group, or breaking up into still smaller classes. In many schools, the Beginners should be in a separate group for the entire program, using one of the Beginner's courses such as "Our Happy World" by Freivogel.

a. For the Beginners.
Have construction paper, or wrapping paper, ready and have the children draw pictures suggested by the thought of Christmas. This might be something as simple as a star, a cradle, or a Christmas tree, but let it be the children's own drawings. Or they might draw pictures of gifts they receive or give at Christmas time. Or they may pantomime, or act out very simply something they like to do at Christmas time, such as sharing their gifts with others. Or they may act out a brief scene from the Christmas story such as the wise men going to see the Baby Jesus.

Show them the Christmas pictures you have in your collection. Let them point out the shepherds, the wise men, Mary the mother, the Baby Jesus, etc.

b. For the Older Children.
Begin a conversation about the way in which the missionary shared the Christmas story with others. Then talk over together ways in which the children may share the Good News of Jesus coming with others whom they may know. Help them to plan what they would like to make or to do to share the Christmas message. Perhaps you would like to tell them of the way the Indian

children at Chin Lee share Christmas with others. See page 28 in the supplement. At this point in your conversation suggest the idea of the Treasure Chest and the putting into it of the gifts they make for others during the Vacation Bible School. A suggestion of a gift for this first session would be to write and illustrate a simple account of the Christmas story, putting it into a little booklet. Or they might make pictures of the Christmas story and make simple picture frames of cardboard or cactus wood for these. Or they might plan some special gift for the Japanese children in one of the relocation centers (if one of these are nearby) or for some shut-in or children in a hospital.

If you have a box ready for a Treasure Chest two or three of the older children may begin covering this with paper, printing on it in big letters the words, TREASURE CHEST.

If time permits, begin practising the song "Bless Thou the gifts our Hands have Made" (see page 48 in the supplement). Be sure to leave ten minutes at the end of the session for picking up work materials and tidying up the room. Close with a verse of a familiar song and a brief prayer in each group. Then dismiss them.

A PROGRAM FOR THE REST OF THE SESSIONS

For the rest of the sessions, follow a program somewhat like this:

1. Pre-session activities
This means that you will be there ready to greet the early-comers and to see that each one has something interesting and worthwhile to do while they are waiting for the time for their assembly. This should be done in separate groups, if practical, the Beginners by themselves and the older ones by themselves. Practical suggestions for each day will be given in connection with each day's session plans.

2. Group Assembly (promptly at 9:00 A.M. or whatever you decide should be the opening time)
You will need to decide (or your supervisor will decide for you) whether, in your school, it is best to have the Beginners take part in this or whether it is best for them to have their entire program separate.

Include an American and a Christian flag ceremonial, the singing of one or two songs, the telling of the story, a picture interpretation (sometimes) and a prayer. Sometimes you may also wish to include brief reports from different groups on matters of interest to all. You may also wish to include the repeating of memory verses learned which fit in with the theme of the day's program.

3. A Play Period
In most cases it will be better for the Beginners to be by themselves with a leader and the older boys and girls in another group. Plan to use some of the games suggested on page 21. This period ought not to be much longer than twenty or thirty minutes.

4. An Activity or Work Period
In most cases the Beginners should be separate from the older boys and girls for this period. The older ones may be divided into several work groups according to the activities or projects in which they are interested. This period might last the rest of the morning, so long as the members of the groups are kept busy at their work and interested. Suggestions for each day's activities will be given in connection with daily session plans.

5. Clean-up and Closing Period
This need not be more than ten minutes long if the children are quick to put their materials away and to tidy up their work table. Hymn books or Bibles should also be stacked away and the room put in good order. Sing one verse only of a familiar song and have a brief closing prayer by a leader before the children are dismissed.

SESSION TWO. SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS THE HEALER

1. Pre-session activities.
As the very first children arrive, someone should be there to enter into conversation with them, or to play games with them so as to get better acquainted with them. You may call attention to some of the pictures of Jesus' birth (arranged on the wall) and see how much of the Christmas story they can tell you. Encourage the older ones to repeat with you the words of the memory verse used in the first session (Luke 2:10-11). Now turn the attention of the children to some of the pictures of Jesus healing the sick or the blind or the lame. Ask them if they know anyone who is sick in bed or cannot get out of doors and enjoy himself. Let these early-comers select the pictures of Jesus healing people and arrange them in a central place on the wall where all the group can see them easily as they gather for their assembly period. Show the early-comers the American and the Christian flags. Choose two from among the early-comers to carry them in the flag ceremonial and teach them how to carry them correctly. Have written on the blackboard or on a large sheet of paper where all can see the words of the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag and the words of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Christian flag. Teach them the correct form of salute for each. The words of the Salute to the Christian flag are as follows:

"I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag and to the Saviour for whose Kingdom it stands, one brotherhood uniting all mankind

in service and in love."

Try over again the offering song "Bless thou the gifts our hands have made."

2. Group Assembly.
Have the group march into the room to the music of some familiar song such as "Onward Christian Soldiers" and stand in their places while those who carry the two flags take their places in front. Then have them give the pledge and the salute to the American flag followed by the singing of a verse of a familiar patriotic song (if they know one). Then have them give the pledge of allegiance to the Christian flag while they remain standing. After the flags are put in their places, have everyone seated.

Select for your first song some familiar one about Jesus, or use one of the Christmas ones sung the day before. Show one of the pictures of Jesus healing someone. Then tell tell the following story (or one of the stories in the supplement which fits in with the picture you have).

Four Men Bring Their Sick Friend to Jesus

Jesus, the tiny baby, soon grew to be a little boy who could toddle along the path. Then he became a big boy who could help in the carpenter shop at Nazareth. It was not long before he was a strong young man. Then one day he left his home in Nazareth and started out to help sick people and blind people and all those who needed his help.

Now in the land where Jesus lived there was a man who was very sick with a disease called palsy which crippled up his limbs and made him so sick he could not walk by himself or even wait on himself. All day long he had to lie on his bed. But he had some friends who were sorry for him. One day these men heard about Jesus, the friendly Healer, who was making many sick people well. They heard him speak. They watched him lay his friendly hands upon some sick people. They saw these same sick people made well again. They said to each other, "We must tell our sick friend about this great doctor. Perhaps he could make him well too." Then they shook their heads. They knew that was not enough. For even though this sick friend of theirs knew about Jesus, their friend would have no way to get where Jesus was unless they carried him. It would only make him feel very sad to know that this great Healer was so close and he could not get to where he was. So they planned what they would do.

The very next day when Jesus was teaching in the house of one of their friends, they hurried to the home of the man with the palsy. They said to him, "We are going to carry you, bed and all, to where Jesus, the Healer, is teaching the people." So they picked up the

pad on which he was lying, one man taking each corner. They lifted their sick friend and carried him on his bed to the house where Jesus was teaching.

When they reached the house they found that the crowd was so very great inside and around the house that they could not push their way through without hurting the sick man. What should they do next? Should they give up trying to help their friend and take him back home again? No, there must surely be a better way. Then one of them had an idea. He climbed up on to the low flat roof of the house. He gave one look at the tiling which covered it. It would not be hard to take up some of this tiling, enough to make a hole through which they could let down the cot of the sick man, down to a spot in the floor just in front of the place where Jesus was standing. So they carried him up to the rooftop. They made an opening in the roof. They lowered the sick man through this opening and, to the astonishment of the crowd inside the house, they laid the sick man at Jesus' feet.

When Jesus looked at the sick man before him, he said to him, "Son, thy sins are forgiven thee." Then he told the sick man, "Take up your bed and walk." Before their very eyes the sick man picked up his cot and walked away as though he had not been sick at all.

We do not know what Jesus said to the friends who had brought the man to Jesus, but we feel sure he was pleased with their unselfish thoughtfulness in sharing the Good News about Jesus with their sick friend who needed his forgiving and his healing touch. We are sure he was glad that they thought enough about their friend to be willing to take the trouble to bring him to the house. We are sure that the man who was cured prayed a Thank-You prayer to God that night for Jesus and for these four faithful friends of his.

Close the assembly period with a brief prayer in which you thank God for his gift of health and for the chance while you have to share the Good News of Jesus with any sick friends you may know.

3. Play Period.
Try another new game suggested on page 21.

4. Activity Period

a. For Beginners
Show again some of the pictures of people whom Jesus cured. Have the children put their hands over their eyes and play they are blind. Then have some one touch their eyes and have them open their eyes and look around. Or play that they have crooked backs or are deaf and cannot hear. Then have someone touch them so they can stand straight or can hear what others are saying. Perhaps they will wish to continue the drawing they started yesterday or draw pictures of sick people. Encourage them to think of some very simple gift they could make for some person near by

whom they know who is sick. This might be a little paper basket which they could fill with flowers growing near by.

b. For Older Children.
Talk with the children about blind people or sick people they know. Tell the stories of Dr. Ellis and his medical work among the Pima and Papago tribes (page 12*); of Dr. Williamson among the Sioux (page 32); or of the first Indian woman doctor, Dr. Susan LaFlesche Picotte (page 33); or of Ganado hospital. Help them to plan something they might do for some sick or blind people in their community. This might be a scrapbook with colored pictures which children in a hospital or a sanitarium could enjoy.

5. Clean-up and Closing Period.
After the room and table are in order, close with a brief prayer and the verse of a familiar song.

SESSION THREE. SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS THE TEACHER

1. Pre-session Activities
As the first children arrive, enter into conversation with them or let them go to work at the handwork they started yesterday. Talk with them as they work about the joy their gifts will bring to others. You may choose one or two of the children who do not have anything else to do to help you rearrange the pictures on the wall. Put in the center, where all can see, a picture of Jesus teaching on the mountain side, or by the seashore. Have one of the older children find Matthew 5-7 and place a marker in the Bible so that later they may turn to it quickly. Continue practise of the offering song "Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought." Or begin teaching them the flag song "Hail America, hail to thee, morning star of liberty." (page 48)

2. Group Assembly.
Have the children march in as at the last session with two of them carrying the American and the Christian flags, then stand at attention while they give the pledge of allegiance to the American flag. Then, if you have practised the flag song earlier, have them sing this, adding it as a part of their regular flag ceremonial. Then give pledge of allegiance to the Christian flag. If the children are accustomed to bring an offering each day to Daily Vacation Bible School, include the taking up of the offering at this point, and follow this with the offering song "Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought." If the group know the song "Tell me the stories of Jesus," sing it here. Otherwise use a familiar song about Jesus.

Now tell the following story:

* omitted

Jesus Teaches on the Mountain-side

One day Jesus and his helpers climbed the side of the mountain. Some people saw where they were going. They came out from their little adobe houses and started to climb up the hill also, by twos or by threes. It was a beautiful, clear day with the sunshine bright on the hills. Far away could be seen the snowy peaks of Mount Hermon. Below them were the deep blue waters of the Sea of Galilee. When they reached the top of the hill, they sat down around Jesus and his helpers. They leaned forward, eager to catch every word that he said. They did not want to miss a single one of them for they knew Jesus was a great teacher. His words were so simple that even the most ignorant might understand. His voice was rich and beautiful. He told them simple stories about familiar things. He talked about the seed-sowing and the harvest, about the birds of the air and the flowers of the field. He told them about the heavenly Father's love and about how God expected His children to live every day. There were many wonderful words and thoughts he gave them on this special day as he sat with them and with his helpers on the mountainside. The people never forgot his words. Long afterwards some of his friends wrote them down so we have them today in our Bibles. He told them that day who were the really happy people in the world. He told them to let their light shine in the darkness. He told them to guard their hearts from anger and from pride. He taught them a Golden Rule to live by. But what they loved most of all was the prayer he taught them. It began "Our Father, who art in heaven."

As the sun began to sink lower in the western sky and to turn the hills to purple, the people started homeward. They were happy that they could spend the day listening to Jesus the great Teacher.

If your group is mostly made up of the older children, have them turn in the Bibles to special verses from the Sermon on the Mount such as the Beatitudes (Matt. 5:1-10), the Golden Rule (Matt. 7:12), The Lord's Prayer (Matt. 6:9-13). Select one or two verses to memorize. Have them study the picture of Jesus teaching on the Mountainside, talking about the different listeners in the picture and helping them to imagine what it must have meant to each one to hear and to carry on in their everyday lives the teachings Jesus gave them that day.

Close this session with a brief prayer, thanking God for the teachings of Jesus and asking his help in living according to these teachings and in sharing them with others.

3. Play Period

4. Activity Period

a. For the Beginners

Tell them the story which Jesus told of the Good Samaritan (see story supplement on page 35). Help them to act it out in a very simple way. One can be the person who was hurt, another the person who helped him. Two of them can be the two men who passed by on the other side of the road. Talk with them about ways they can be "good neighbors" to others. Continue work on the simple gifts they have been making.

b. For the Older Children

Have the group continue the study of the picture of Jesus Teaching on the Mountainside (or by the Seashore). Let each one pick out one person in the picture and imagine a story about him, what kind of a person he is, why he went to hear Jesus speak that day, what Jesus said which impressed him most, and what difference this teaching made in his life when he started to put it into practice. Have them turn to the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) and select verses or words which Jesus might have said especially for each of these persons. Find out how many of them know The Lord's Prayer, the Golden Rule, the Beatitudes, the Story of the Two Foundations. Select one of these for memorization.

Tell the story of Dr. Cook and his first school among the Pima Indians and what he taught these Indian boys. Or the story of some other missionary and his teaching of the Christian religion to one of the tribes. (see story supplement)

Talk over together and plan what the children may do to share Jesus' teachings with others. They might select one short verse such as "God is Love" or "Love one another" and print it carefully and neatly on colored construction paper, using colored crayons or ink. Frames could then be made for these "mottos" so they could be hung on the wall. Or they may make large wall-hangings of spatter-print with the Bible verse printed on them. These could be hung in the church building behind the pulpit. Allow plenty of time to work on any projects which have been started, or planned.

5. Clean-up and Closing

The same as on the other days.

SESSION FOUR. SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS THE SAVIOUR

1. Pre-session Activities

Enter into conversation with the early-comers as on the other days. Help some of them to rearrange the pictures on the wall, placing in a central position this time a copy of either Sollmon's or Hoffman's Head of Christ. Encourage those who have started gifts to keep at work at them so they may have at least one gift completed

by the end of the week. Begin teaching them the chorus "Let us be Loyal." Review any other of the songs which they do not know well.

2. Group Assembly
Flag Ceremonial
All march in behind the two who are carrying the American and the Christian flags.
Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag
Sing "Hail, America, hail to thee, Morning star of liberty"
Pledge of allegiance to Christian flag.
Sing "Let us be loyal"
Offering and offering song "Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought"
Sing "Jesus Love Me" or "Tell me the Stories of Jesus"
Memory verse - "Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people, for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11)

Tell them the following story:

Jesus the Saviour

Jesus spent three busy years helping and healing people who were sick, and teaching them that God their Father loved them. He was kind and helpful to everybody. His friends loved him dearly. But there were some wicked men who did not like Jesus even though he was so kind, so pure and so good. They planned a way to have him put to death. So one day they killed him. They thought they had put a stop to all his work and to his teaching about God. But it was not long before Jesus' circle of friends knew that he was not really dead any more. They knew that he was alive and that he would be with them helping them as they went out to share the Good News about God's forgiving love with all the world. They knew that because he had risen from the dead they did not need to fear death any more. They knew that Jesus had power to forgive sins and that God the Father was ready and willing to forgive those who did wrong so now their lives were filled with joy and power to conquer sin. They knew that each child or older person who was sorry for his wrong-doing might be forgiven and helped to start a good life.

Have the group repeat together John 3:16. Close this period with a prayer thanking God for the gift of His Son who will forgive them when they do wrong and help them to be good children.

3. Play Period
4. Activity Period

a. For the Beginners

This is a difficult lesson for very little children to understand. Probably your best approach will be to select one of the pictures of Jesus blessing the little children. Tell the story of this picture to the children (see story supplement on page 31). If you have some magazines with pictures of children in them, cut them out and have the children make a big poster or wall frieze, placing the picture of Jesus in the center and pasting the pictures of other children around it. Or they may draw pictures of other children to place on this poster or wall frieze.

b. For the Older Children
Tell the stories of Indian men and women whose lives have been changed when they heard about Christ and his love for them through some missionary who has told them the story. One of these stories is "Up from the canyon" (page 38 of the story supplement.)

Continue to make plans of ways in which they may share the Good News of God's love for everyone. Plan for the next day the placing of the gifts already completed in the Treasure Chest while they sing their offering song. The rest of the session should be spent working on the projects which have already been started.

5. Clean-up and Closing Period

SESSION FIVE. JESUS CHOOSING HELPERS TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

1. Pre-session Activities
If this is to be only a one-week school and your closing program is to be this evening or on Sunday, you will need to take particular care to see that the boys and girls complete everything they have started so they may have something ready to put into the Treasure Chest.

Talk with those who come early about what they would like to do with their gifts. Perhaps, if the vacation school is connected with some mission school, there would be a gospel team of students, who could take the children's gift to some church where they would not be able to have a daily vacation bible school. Or theremight be a nearby village, or a relocation center for Japanese which would welcome the gifts or they might be sent to some mission field in another state. Or sent as gifts to one of the sustaining churches which have helped to make this Vacation School possible. Or they might be gifts to their own local church. Whichever is decided upon the children should have some part in the decision so that they may give their gifts wholeheartedly. If some want to keep for themselves the gifts they have made, do not force them to put them in the Chest. But give special recognition to the ones

who give theirs away.

As the children work at their projects, review some of the verses and the stories and the songs used during the week. If they do not yet know "Tell me the Stories of Jesus", teach them at least one verse. Have some child rearrange the pictures on the wall placing in the center one of Jesus Choosing His Helpers.

2. Group Assembly
Flag Ceremonial
(including the two songs "Hail America" and "Let us be Loyal")
Offering Service
In addition to money offering, those who have completed gifts may come forward and place them in the Treasure Chest while the group sings "Bless Thou the gifts our hands have brought."

Sing the new songs learned during the week or some familiar one about Jesus.
Repeat together the memory verses learned during the week.
Show them the picture "Jesus Choosing His Helpers" and tell the following story.

Jesus Finds Some Helpers

One day Jesus was walking by the side of a lake. He saw two young men in a boat who were fishing in the water. He said to these young men, "Come with me and I will make you to become fishers of men." The young men left their boat and they followed Jesus. The names of these two young men were Simon and Andrew. They were brothers. As Jesus continued walking along the shore of the lake he came to the place where two other young men were in a boat with their father. They were mending their nets. Jesus called them to come with him too just as he had the others. These men also left their boat and went along in Jesus' company.

Some days later Jesus and these four companions of his were passing along by the out-door office of a man who was working for the Roman government. His business was to collect taxes from the people in order that the Roman government might pay all those who worked for it and might continue to be powerful. Jesus felt that this man too would make a good leader and a good missionary so he called him to become one of his helpers. He left a "good-paying" job to preach the Good News to his people. Jesus kept on finding young men who would be helpers to go with him wherever he went. Finally there were twelve of these. They were not only helpers; they were learners first of all. For three years Jesus taught them his way of living so they would be able to carry on his work and his teaching after he was gone from them. Most of these twelve men were not well-educated people when they started to follow Jesus. They were just common, working folks. But they were interested in Jesus' teaching. And they were his loyal friends. After Jesus' death they

went everywhere to spread the Good News he had shared with them.

Close this session with a brief prayer that each one of the pupils in the school might learn to be Jesus' helpers.

3. Play Period
4. Activity Period

a. For the Beginners
Show the children the picture again of Jesus choosing his helpers. Have different ones point out to you the boat, the nets, the lake, the one who is Jesus in the picture, and the ones who became his helpers. Talk with them about simple ways in which they may be Jesus' helpers too. Let each one think of one helpful thing he could do and come and whisper it to you. He might then act this out in simple pantomime and see if the others can guess what it is.

Or you may have a number of pictures of children doing helpful things, which the children might arrange on a long strip of paper, making a wall-frieze of them. You might print in large letters in the middle of this the words "Jesus' helpers."

b. For the Older Children
Spend at least part of this time planning for your closing program (if this is a one-week school), deciding what songs you will sing, what memory verses you will recite, what stories they wish retold and what other features they wish on the program. Put the ideas of the boys and girls on the blackboard and arrange them into an orderly program. You will also need to decide who will explain about the Treasure Chest, who will tell the stories, who will carry the flags and do other special things. Here is one way the program might be arranged.

A Closing Program

Processional and flag ceremonial
  Processional music (a familiar marching hymn)
  Pledge of allegiance to the American flag
  Song - "Hail, America, hail to thee"
  Pledge of allegiance to the Christian flag
  Song - "Let us be loyal"
Song - "Tell me the Stories of Jesus" or some other familiar song about Jesus
The Story of Jesus' Birth (read from Luke 2:1-20) or told by an older pupil with a smaller child holding the picture for all to see.
The Story of Jesus the Healer (select one story of Jesus' healing and have one of the older pupils tell it while a younger child holds up the picture)

Story of Jesus the Teacher
One of the smaller children holds the picture and an older pupil tells the story of Jesus teaching on the Mountainside.
Some words that Jesus taught
Selected memory verses used during the week such as John 3:16, Matthew 7:12, the Beatitudes, and The Lord's Prayer.
Prayer - by the pastor or adult leader
Story of Jesus and His Helpers
Told by one of the older pupils while a younger one holds the picture.
Our Treasure Chest
Have one of the older pupils explain about the Treasure Chest and the gifts which have been made and those to whom they are to be given. (If the Chest has not been brought in before, two older boys might now bring it in and up to the front of the room.) In the speech it should be made clear that the gifts are for the purpose of sharing the Good News of Jesus with others. (After the speech each one who has made a gift and has not yet placed it in the chest might be given an opportunity to do so, and also the older people should be invited to bring an offering.)
Offering Hymn - "Bless thou the gift our hands have brought"
Prayer of dedication - by pastor or vacation school leader
Closing hymn - A familiar one which everyone knows such as "Living for Jesus"
Benediction

SECOND WEEK

SESSION SIX. SHARING THE GOOD NEWS AT HOME

1. Pre-session Activities
For this have the older boys and girls who come early look through the collection of pictures to find those which show Jesus in his Nazareth home, or which show pictures of homes and homelife today, or pictures showing missionaries and others telling the Good News of Jesus in hogans, adobe houses, wickiups, pueblos or tepees. Let them plan some sort of effective arrangement of these. While they are working at these, talk with them about their homes, about the minister or missionary who sometimes come to see them, or about ways in which they might share the Good News about Jesus at home. Some may also wish to continue work on some of the gifts they started last week. Try over the new song for the week "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations."

2. Group Assembly
Processional and Flag Ceremonial
Sing "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" (first verse)
After this has been sung once, substitute the following words and sing:

"We've a Story to tell in our home,
That shall turn our hearts to the right,
A story of love and kindness,
A story of truth and right."

Repeat together the memory verse "Let us love one another" (1 John 4:11)

Offering Song - "Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought" (while gifts of money or handwork are brought and placed in the Chest.)

Tell the following story

A Mother and a Grandmother Who Shared the Good News

In a tiny, flat-roofed house in the city of Lystra there lived a little boy with his mother and his grandmother. This little boy had been named Timothy, which means "Gift of God." Both Lois, his grandmother, and Eunice, his mother, had heard the wonderful story of Jesus and of his love for everybody when Paul, the traveling missionary had come to visit in their town. They had both become followers of Jesus. They loved their Bible. Both of them wanted their boy "Gift of God" to grow up loving the stories of the Bible. They both wanted him to love Jesus as they loved him. They had great hopes that some day he might grow up to share the Good News of the Gospel with other people.

So his mother Eunice and his grandmother Lois told him stories. They read to him from the scrolls on which their Bible was written the stories of their people, of David, the shepherd boy who grew up to be king; of Joseph; and of Samuel who had heard God speak to him in the temple long ago. On hot summer evenings they would climb up to the roof top to catch the stray breezes. There they would sit while grandmother Lois would read to little "Gift of God" out of the Scriptures. But of all the stories little "Gift of God" loved best the stories of Jesus. He also loved to hear them read to him some of the letter from their missionary friend, Paul. "Little Gift of God" grew up to be a very great admirer of this missionary.

Then one day when Timothy, or "Gift of God" was almost grown, a very exciting thing happened. For their missionary friend, Paul came to visit them again in Lystra. He brought with him another missionary friend, Silas. These two traveling preachers were on their way to visit other villages and cities and to tell other people about Jesus. Then the most wonderful thing of all happened for, after they had visited a while, Paul said to mother Eunice, "Would you be willing to let your boy Timothy go with us to help tell the story of Jesus to other people who haven't heard about him yet?" Eunice paused a moment before giving her answer. It would be hard to get along without their boy they loved so much. Then she thought, "Perhaps Timothy is not only God's gift to us but

also God's gift to other people who have not heard of Jesus' love." Then she nodded to Paul, giving her consent. So it came about that this boy from a Christian home, who had heard the stories of Jesus as a child, started out on the trail with these two Christian missionaries to share the Good News with others. Through him many people heard the Gospel story."

Closing Prayer - Ask the different children to tell of things they are thankful for in their homes. Then pray a prayer in which you include all these things for which the children are thankful.

3. Play Period
You might try out here a variation of the singing and action game, "Here we go round the mulberry bush" with "This is the way we wash our clothes" and other phrases suggesting various activities that go on in a home.

4. Activity Period
a. For the Beginners
Show the children pictures of other children helping in their homes. Have the children "play out" ways they help their mothers in their home. Teach them to sing "Happy Family" (see page 48 in the supplement). You may also get them to draw pictures of their own homes. Or show them how to make some very simple little gift which they may take home for their mothers or their fathers. This might be a colored picture pasted on a sheet of construction paper with a string attached to it by which it may be hung up.

b. For the Older Boys and Girls
Talk together about ways in which they may share the Good News of Jesus with their fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters in their own homes. Some ways to suggest would be learning to tell the Bible stories, such as the story of Timothy, to their younger brothers and sisters or learning a Table Grace to teach their family or to say at the table. See the supplement, page 47 for one which they might learn. Tell the story of the girl at the school at Ganado who on her graduation day received a note from her father and her mother telling her of their conversion. (see story supplement) Spend the rest of the time working on gifts for the Treasure Chest, especially on some gifts for their home folks. Leave ten minutes at the close for clean-up, closing prayer and dismissal.

SESSION SEVEN. SHARING THE GOOD NEWS AT CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

1. Pre-session Activities
Let the early-comers pick out from among the different pictures in your collection those showing boys and girls going to church, those

showing people worshipping in church, or of Sunday School classes. Arrange these pictures in a central place on the wall. Talk with those who come early about their Sunday School and church experiences. Let those who are in the midst of making gifts continue their work on them. Perhaps some would like to take a look around your church room, if vacation school is held in the same room where church services are held, to see what they could do to make it more attractive and worshipful.

2. Group Assembly
Processional and Flag Ceremonial
Offering ceremonial and song "Bless Thou the Gifts"
Song - "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" (use also the new verse, "We've a Story to Tell in our Homes"and then try the following verse with chorus.)

"We've a story to tell in our churches
That shall help us live in the light
A story which gives us courage
And faith to do the right."

"And the darkness shall turn to the dawning
And the dawning to noonday bright
And Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth
The Kingdom of love and light."

Story -

Long years ago, before there were any church buildings and when the Christian Church was very young, a group of Christians were praying in the home of one of the members. They were very sad and troubled for their leader, Peter, had been arrested by the city officers and put into prison because he dared to preach everywhere he went about Jesus. So, because they believed that God would help them if they only asked him, they were having a prayer-meeting in this home. They were praying that God would take care of their friend in jail and would bring him safely back to them again.

While they were on their knees praying, there came a rapping at the door. Rhoda, the little servant girl, who had been praying with the other Christians, got up and went to the door. She opened the door just a crack and peeked out. She did not dare open it any more for she was afraid somebody might be there to drag her and all the rest off to jail. To her amazement there stood their leader, Peter, whom everybody thought was in jail. She was so surprised that she left him standing outside the door and ran back into the room, without even welcoming him in. How surprised all the church members were to think that their prayers had been answered so soon. Their prayers were changed to prayers of thanksgiving and joy that God had released their friend. So the people of the church in Jerusalem had still another wonderful story to

tell about how God was caring for His own children and for their leaders. They had another "good news" story to share with others.

Sing once more "We've a Story to Tell to the Churches" and close this assembly period with a prayer, thanking God for Christian Churches with the people in them who are learning how to pray and how to share the Good News with others. Also ask God to help you do your part in church and Sunday School.

3. Play Period
4. Activity Period

a. For the Beginners
Show them pictures of little children in Sunday School and little children in church with their families. Talk with them about ways they can help their teachers in Sunday School. Suggest that they might make a little gift for their church such as decorating a vase or a wastepaper basket to be used in the church building. One group took an ordinary grocery carton and covered the outside with bright-colored strips of paper cut from the advertising section of illustrated magazines. This could be planned as a surprise gift for the minister or missionary. For those who have not yet attended church, this might be for the Vacation Church School.

b. For the Older Boys and Girls
Discuss together the various ways in which the Good News is shared in the Church service and in Sunday School by different people. List on a blackboard, or on a large sheet of paper tacked to the wall the different people who help to spread the Good News, such as Sunday School teachers who tell the Bible stories to children on Sunday morning, the ministers, or elders, who preach, or explain the Scriptures, the choir members who sing the Gospel story, the elders and the women of the church who help the pastor in visiting the sick and others in need of help, and all those who give their offerings for the work of the church.

Another suggestion would be to look through the songbook used in the church service or in the Sunday School to find hymns which tell about the Good News of Jesus.

Plan what your group as a whole or individuals in it might do for your own church or Sunday School. Perhaps the older ones would like to plan a worship center. Whatever is decided upon should be put into the Treasure Chest or placed back of it and on the night of your closing program presented to the minister or some church office for the church. Be sure to leave time at the end of this session for the clean-up and for a closing song and prayer.

SESSION EIGHT. SHARING THE GOOD NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

1. Pre-session Activities

Spend your extra time at the beginning today getting the bits of handwork completed which have been started so they will be ready to put into the chest during the offering service. But let your conversation, while everybody is working, center about life on the reservation, in the village or in the community, and of the neighbors there to whom the story of Jesus might be told either by word or by deed. If there are any who are not busy working on gifts, have these persons arrange in the picture corner pictures of oriental villages, such as Nazareth was, or of Indian villages, and the life which goes on within such villages.

2. Group Assembly

Processional and Flag Ceremonial
Offering Ceremonial
Song - "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"
Use the verses "We've a Story to Tell in our Homes" and "We've a Story to Tell in our Churches." Then try the following verse--

"We've a story to tell to our neighbors,
That will help them live in the right,
A story which gives them courage
And faith to follow the Light."

Story--

A Roman Army Officer Learns of Jesus

Once, in the early days of the Christian Church, Peter, Jesus' friend, went up on a roof-top to pray at the noon hour. While he was up on the roof he had a dream which made him sure that God's love was big enough to reach out beyond his own people, the Jews, to people of another nation or tribe. For the Jews were very particular with whom they should eat or be friendly. They thought they were better than the people of this other nation, the Romans. They would not eat with them.

No sooner had Peter dreamed this dream than some men came knocking at the door of the house where he was staying. Peter soon learned that they had been sent on a very special errand by their master, a Roman army officer. He had sent them with instructions to have Peter come to his house in the town of Caesarea. So Peter started out with these men.

When he reached the house of Cornelius, this army officer, he found the man with his entire family gathered together and waiting for him. Cornelius bowed very low before Peter. But Peter said to him, "Stand up, I myself also am a man." Then Peter told Cornelius and his family the Good news of Jesus and of his love for all people

whatever tribe they belonged to. When Cornelius heard the Good News he wanted to become a follower of Jesus too. God's Spirit came upon him and he and his entire family were baptized. Then Peter said, "I see now that God has no favorites among the races and nations. Everyone who believes in Jesus is accepted by him."

After the story, have everyone repeat after you the verse "God has no favorites" (Acts 10:34 Moffatt's translation), which are Peter's words to Cornelius.

Close this period with a prayer that the children may find those in their neighborhood to whom they may tell the story of Jesus and that they may learn to be neighborly to everyone who lives around them.

2. Play Period
3. Activity Period

a. For the Beginners
Put up on the wall, low enough so the children can really see it, one of the pictures of Jesus and the little children. Find in old magazines, mission posters and papers, and Sunday School papers pictures of little children of different races and nations which you may help the children to place in a circle around the picture of Jesus, talking about each picture and the children it represents as you help them to place them on the wall. Tell stories about these children, what they like to play and do, how Jesus loves them too.

b. For the Older Children
Discuss with them the question whether they think God likes some people or races more than others. Help your group to think of some people in their neighborhood with whom they might be especially friendly. If there should be a Japanese relocation center near by, call attention to the possibility of doing something kind for the Japanese children living there. Perhaps they might select some gift from their Treasure Chest to send to a child there. Spend the rest of the time working on the projects which have been started. Leave time for clean-up and for a closing prayer and song.

SESSION NINE. SHARING THE GOOD NEWS ACROSS THE BORDERS (or with Other Tribes)

1. Pre-session Activities
Since your Vacation School will be closing tomorrow, some time should be spent today making plans for your closing program and completing all the things which have been started as gifts. Each person should know exactly what part he is to take in the program, whether it is to explain about the Treasure Chest, to carry a flag, to tell a story, or to repeat a verse or even to

hold a picture. The program may be similar to the one given at the end of the one week's sessions which of course you would have omitted then if the school held for two weeks. To that program you may wish to add verses, songs or stories used during the last week. Spend some time reviewing all the memory verses learned, the songs which have been sung and the stories which have been told. Teach them also Matt. 28:18-20.

2. Group Assembly
Processional and Flag Ceremonial
Songs - "Tell me the Stories of Jesus" (if that was sung the first week)
"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"(with its different variations)
Memory Verses - Luke 2:10-11, Matt. 7:12, Matt. 28:18-20 and others
Offering Ceremonial with offering song
Story --

Philip Shares The Good News with a Man in the Desert

One of the early helpers in the church in Jerusalem was Philip. He told people in the city about Jesus. Then he went into the country outside the city and told the people the good news about Jesus. Then one day God's Spirit whispered to Philip, saying to him, "Go away down into the desert in the country to the south and spread the Good News." So Philip started out traveling southward. On and on he walked. He was all alone. He met no one along the lonely trail. Then he saw a chariot being driven across the sandy desert. In it was a black man, dressed up in rich clothes. He was an important officer for an African queen going on important official business. As Philip came nearer to the chariot, he saw that the man was reading from a copy of the Old Testament Scriptures. His face looked sad and puzzled. When he saw Philip, he invited him to climb up into the seat of the chariot and to travel with him. Philip asked the man, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The man shook his head. "How can I?" he answered, unless someone explains it to me?" The passage he was trying to read was from the Old Testament Book of Isaiah. It was about someone who was to come some day who would suffer unjustly for the sake of others. Philip explained how Christians believed that all this had come to pass in the life and the death of Jesus. The officer was glad to know about Jesus. He wanted to believe in him and to become his follower then and there. "What hinders me from being baptized?" he asked Philip. So this officer from Africa was added to the number of Christian converts.

Close the assembly period with a prayer that God may be especially close to those who are taking the message of Christ to other tribes and across the borders of our country into Canada and into Mexico.

2. Play Period
3. Activity Period

a. For the Beginners

Continue the plan started yesterday. Find pictures of children of other Indian tribes and of Mexican people and of Japanese. Have the children arrange these in a circle around the picture of Jesus blessing the children. Talk about these same children. Tell stories about them. Encourage a spirit of friendliness toward such children as these.

b. For the Older Children

If possible have a map of the United States before the group for this period. Tell stories of Indian Christians who have gone to other tribes or across the borders of our country to give the Gospel message. Use story of Wilson Walker and his mission to the Apache tribe; of the Nez Perces Indians and their evangelistic tours; and of the Assinoboines to their Canadian neighbors. (see story supplement) Find out how many know Indians outside their own reservation, outside their own state, or across the borders of their own country. Talk about plans for spreading the message of Jesus across the Mexican or Canadian borders. Spend the rest of the time completing plans for the closing program and completing all gifts which have been started.

SESSION TEN. SHARING THE GOOD NEWS IN FAR COUNTRIES

1. Pre-session Activities

Spend all this time making final plans and practising for the closing program. All gifts should be completed and placed in the Treasure Chest. Decide whether you wish the Treasure Chest placed in the front of the room where the program is to be held or whether you wish to appoint two boys to carry it in following the flag-bearers. Have someone arrange the pictures on the wall just as you would like to have them on the night of the closing program. Perhaps a picture of Jesus and the Children of the world might occupy central places.

2. Group Assembly

Processional and Flag Ceremonial
Offering Ceremonial and song
Songs - "Tell me the Stories of Jesus"
"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"
Memory Verses - Review the ones which have been learned
Stories - Have different ones tell their favorite stories
Tell story of Paul writing letters to his friends from Rome.

3. Play Period and Activity Period combined

This time should be spent largely in final preparations for the closing program and in fixing up the room just as they wish it for this program. After everything has been completed, have everyone form a big circle by taking hold of hands. Sing together the theme song "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations." Close with a brief prayer by the leader.

Story Supplement

The Christmas Story

One cold night long years ago people were traveling. They were traveling on foot and on donkeys. They were going to be registered in the towns to which they belonged. Mary and Joseph were among those who were traveling. They journeyed from Nazareth in Galilee to Bethlehem in Judea. Finally at nightfall they reached Bethlehem. Mary was very, very tired. She could hardly hold her head up. But there was no place for them to stay that night. The inn was full. Every house was full. The only place left for them was a stable where the cattle were sheltered.

That night a little baby was born to Mary. She wrapped him up and laid him in the manger.

In the open fields below the little town of Bethlehem there were shepherds watching their sheep. And lo, as they watched, an angel came and a great light shone and they were afraid, and the angel said to them: "Fear not for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you. Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with an angel a great multitude of angels praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace, good will toward men."

When the angels had gone away and the light had faded away the shepherds said to each other, "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing which the angels have told us about." And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in the manger.

And the shepherds returned, praising God for all they had seen and heard. But Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them.

Chin Lee's White Gift Christmas

Thanksgiving Day was past. The Navajo children at Chin Lee were looking forward to setting up their annual Christmas tree. "Can we go out and get the tree now?" they asked the missionary eagerly. Out on the mesa they went and soon brought in a little green fir tree which they set up in their Sunday School room on a table low enough so that even the tiniest child could reach its branches. Then the boys brought out the little rough manger which held their offering box. The missionary's wife brought out the box of little white tissue-paper flowers with their bright red, and blue, and

green centers and their wire stems.

A great time the children had then trying to decide what they should do with their love gift this Christmas. Should it be given to some little sick child over on Black Mountain, or should it go toward making a Christmas treat for the children in a nearby village who would not have any Christmas without their gifts?

One of the boys decided he would take out his rifle and shoot a coyote. He would sell the skin and get some money for his love gift. Some passed by the trading post resolutely with its tempting array of bright colored sticks of candy and its soda pops and ice cream cone. Whenever a gift went into the manger a white flower was placed upon the tree by tiny fingers. So the little fir tree began to blossom with its little paper flowers and the box in the manger grew heavier and heavier with its pennies, its nickels and its dimes.

Every Sunday they remembered to thank God for his gift of the Baby Jesus. They remembered to ask him to bless their love gifts and to make other children happy through them. Thus the Chin Lee children shared the good news of the Baby Jesus with others. No matter whether the missionary boxes failed to come so that their own Christmas bag were rather empty. These Chin Lee children had made a discovery. They had caught the real spirit of Christmas. They know it was not "gimme, gimme" but rather "it's fun to give, it's fun to give."

Jesus is Friend to a Blind Man

In the land where Jesus lived there was a man who was blind. He could not see the trees, the flowers, the faces of his friends or anything at all. Instead, everything looked black to him. He groped around and had to depend upon a cane and upon his good friends to take him where he wanted to go. All day long he sat by the roadside and begged. Sometimes people who were passing by be sorry for him and tossed him a few coins.

But one day this blind man heard some good news. He heard that there was someone in his country who could touch people's eyes and heal them. And one day they said to him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by. He is coming along this very road where you are sitting." So he sat there hoping and hoping that Jesus would see him and help him.

When Jesus came near this blind man and looked at him sitting by the roadside begging he felt sorry for him. For he could imagine what it must be like not to be able to see the beautiful lilies, the birds, the hills and the trees which God his Father had made for everyone to enjoy. So he touched the eyes of the blind man. He prayed to God his Father. The blind man opened his eyes. He

could see. He could see the green trees and the flowers. But, best of all, he could look into the kind and gentle face of this Friend who had given him his sight. He thanked God for this Friend who had made him to see.

A Story of a Sick Child

Many years ago there lived a man, his wife and their little boy. When the little boy was born everybody was glad in their home. The father and mother gave thanks to God for this child He had given them. Each day the baby grew stronger and stronger. Each day the father and mother loved him more and more.

But one day they found out something had happened to their baby. Their boy seemed not to be able to hear or to talk. When they found this out they were very sorry. Neither of them knew what to do about it. They were sorry for him for he was missing the happy singing of boys and girls and the singing of the birds.

Finally the boy grew old enough to walk. One day he went out walking with his father. The boy was having a very happy time out walking with his father. But suddenly he fell on the ground and he could hardly get up by himself. His father stood by his side to help him. He knew he was too heavy to carry home. But the boy was not able to walk. In a little while a man came and helped the father take the little boy back to the village.

This man told the father that Jesus was in Galilee. He was a great Healer of all kinds of sicknesses. This man was sorry for the sick boy. He tried some way to help the man. Days went on, nights went by. The sick boy's father and mother never forgot the man who helped bring the sick boy home. Some months later they heard Jesus was not far from their home. The father of the sick boy took his journey to find Jesus. He went to the place where Jesus had been. Jesus had left that place and had gone somewhere else. He could not find him. He wondered where Jesus had gone.

Finally he found Jesus' disciples. He asked them to do something for his sick boy. They were not so good as Jesus. Just then Jesus came back to where his disciples were standing with the father and the sick boy. He asked what the trouble was all about. The father said the disciples had tried to heal his boy and could not do so. Jesus asked the father, "How long has this boy had his sickness?" The father answered "Since the time he was born." Jesus looked at the boy. Jesus was very sorry for him. But Jesus said, "God is the only one who has power to cure the boy. That is, if you believe in Him, God will do the healing. He is the only one who can help anybody. He is willing to help those who are in need of help."

The man turned his heart to him and said, "I believe God." Right

away Jesus made the child well. So a sorrowing family was turned into a happy family again because they believed in God their Heavenly Father who had power to bring them happiness.

(Written by Jim Crooks of the Supai tribe)

Jesus and the Children

When Jesus was living on earth he did many things for the people. He healed those who were sick. He made the blind to see and the lame to walk. He and his disciples or friends had been traveling for a long time. They were very tired. They stopped by the roadside to rest and Jesus talked to them about God and his love for everyone.

The people near there heard that Jesus was in their country. They wondered just where he was and some went out to look for him. A lame man got his friends to take him to where Jesus was so that he might be healed. Others who were sick wanted to go and to be made well. Mothers and fathers wanted their children to see the man who had done such wonderful things. Boys and girls who heard about Jesus begged their fathers and mothers to let them go to see Jesus.

One family started out and soon their friends and neighbors joined them. They said, "We want to see this man who makes sick people well." One mother said,"I want Ruth and Joseph to see Jesus. I am sure that Jesus will bless them."

Another mother said,"My little Esther has never been able to walk. If only the Master will hold her in his arms she will be strong."

They were eagerly talking and laughing when they caught sight of Jesus and his disciples sitting beside the road. As they drew near some of the disciples motioned to them to be quiet. Peter went toward them and said, "The Master is talking to us about great things. Do not bother Him! But a mother replied, "But I want him to heal my child." Another said, "I want him to place his hands of my children and bless them." Some of the other disciples went to the people and said, "The Master is busy. He must teach us about God. He has no time for children." Others said, "They are too noisy. Take them away."

Jesus heard the talking and asked, "What is all the disturbance?" The disciples said,"Those silly women want to bring their children to you so you can bless them. We told them that you are too busy telling us about God and his Kingdom. We sent them away so they won't bother you any more."

Those words of the disciples made Jesus feel sad. He said, "I love all little children. Go after the mothers and tell them to bring their children to me. Do not send them away for God loves all little

children. They belong to him."

The mothers were happy when they heard that and the children ran to Jesus. They climbed up into his lap and he took them in his arms and blessed them. He said again, "Let the little children come to me. Do not stop them for they belong to God His Kingdom belongs to such as they."

The mothers and children went home happy because they had seen Jesus, the friend of little children. They remembered that he said, "Let the little children come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

(Written by Ella Mitchell)

Dr. Williamson Shares the Good News among his Sioux Friends

About a hundred years ago there was a young doctor who lived in southern Ohio on the bank of the Ohio River. Far to the northwest there was a fierce Indian tribe which had heard nothing of the good news about Christ. For many years this young doctor had had a dream of going as a missionary. But he had a family of little children growing up and it seemed as though he could not go. Then a terrible sorrow came into that family. For several of their children died. Finally the day came when, in the midst of their sorrow, the young doctor and his wife looked each other sorrowfully in the face and said, "Perhaps this is God's way of telling us to go on this mission we have been dreaming about so long."

Not long after this he received a message from the American Board, a missionary organization. They wanted to send him out on a tour of exploration to find out whether it was wise to start a mission among the Sioux people. So it came about that the young Dr. Thomas Williamson and his brave wife started out one day for the long journey up into the Northwest. They traveled by train and by boat as far as they could go. Finally they reached Fort Snelling in Minnesota. And here their missionary work started.

For years Dr. Williamson ministered to the Indians in this section of the country when they were sick and in need of help. So it came about that they gave him the name Payjehoota Wechasta, which means in English "medicine man" or "grass-root man." They soon found out that he knew more about helping sick people than any of their own medicine men from their tribe.

There came a day when his Indian friends were all crowded into a prison camp at the Fort because of an uprising in which many white people had been killed. In those days when the popular feeling was so strong against the Indians that the common remark was "No good Indian but a dead one." Dr. Williamson and his missionary brothers visited the Sioux Christians in prison and proved their true friends. During those terrible days many of the Sioux tribe were converted

and baptized. So the Good News of Jesus the Healer and Saviour and Friend was brought to the Sioux and the Christian Church was established among them.

An Indian Woman Doctor Shares the Good News

Susan was born in a tepee on an unsettled Indian reservation. Never did she dream in those early days that when she grew up she would become the very first Indian woman doctor among the tribes. But after her school days in a mission school and in a government school, she found herself traveling eastward to enter a three years' preparatory school at Elizabeth, New Jersey. It was not long before she had graduated from Hampton Institute and was ready to enter Philadelphia Women's Medical College. When graduation day came at last she found herself, at the age of twenty two years, leading a class of one hundred women and taking first honors. Then came a year of hospital experience and after that she was appointed government physician among the Omaha Indians.

What an opportunity she had in this position to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, the Great Physician, who went about doing good. There were long trips over the reservation by night and by day. She was exposed to every kind of hardship as she ministered to the needs of her people. Finally her frail health made it necessary for her to give up this work. But she was not through with the work of healing. She removed to a thriving town and began to build up a large private practise, giving her service not only to those of her own tribe but to white people as well. Both white people and Indian sought her clever healing touch.

Then came into her life Henry Picotte, a French Sioux Indian. It seemed as though now she could become a quiet home-maker. But her spirit of helpfulness reached outside her little home. She still kept up her medical practise in addition to caring for an aged mother and bringing up two boys and nursing her husband who was sick. But that was not all. She conducted services in the little mission church; she did active temperance work. She never lost touch with the affairs of her own people. At one time she led a delegation of her people to Washington to protest against the sale of liquor in towns on the Omaha and the Winnebago reservations. Their mission was successful.

After her husband's death she gave herself more than ever before to medical missionary work among the Omaha Indian tribe. She helped to organize the Presbyterian Church at Walthill. Every Sunday she walked the eight miles over rough roads to conduct service for her people and to speak to them in their own tongue.

Just before her death she said, in answer to some words of praise for her long influential life of service, "I cannot see how any credit

is due me. I am only thankful that I have been called and permitted to serve. I feel blessed for that privilege beyond all measure."
Adapted from article in "Home Missions Monthly"

"The Desert Place Shall be Made Fruitful"

In the midst of the great Arizona desert stands an oasis. To this oasis come many sick and weary people for refreshing and for help. It is a great hospital and a school which have been built by the gifts of men and women who are concerned for their Indian neighbors. To this hospital come young women of different tribes and races for the training which will give to them the healing touch so that, in turn, they may go forth in the spirit of Christ, the Great Friendly Healer, to help meet the needs of others throughout the world.

Over the entrance to the grounds stands this verse,

"The desert shall be made fruitful
And the waste places turned into gardens."

Back of these words is the story of a miracle. For none of the government experts believed that by digging down they could reach water beneath the desert sands. And water was desperately needed for use in the hospital and in the school.

But there were faithful men and women who were not going to be baffled and beaten by the words of a few government experts and soil analyzers. They remembered that Jesus himself had once said, "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed ye shall say unto this mountain, 'be thou removed' and it shall be cast into the sea." They recalled the fact that once long years before in another desert He had brought forth water out of the rock for his thirsty people. They continued to pray and then they set to work. They asked the Indian Bureau to allow them the use of their well crew and rig and said they would pay all expenses. Finally the crew came, laughing up their sleeves at this foolish, foolish venture, trying to dig for water where all the experts said there was none. They sank a hole near the laundry fifty feet deep which produced enough water for the hand pump, but that was not enough. Several times they changed the place of digging. Finally when the last two holes were tested for water, to their great joy they found that their prayer had been answered in an amazing way. They had forty-five hundred gallons an hour and could pump it day after day without exhausting the supply of pure, clear water. There was great rejoicing at Ganado. "Truly God answers the prayers of his children. Now we can minister to the needs of God's other children in this dry and thirsty land. It is not to keep for ourselves. We shall minister to those who long to know about Jesus the Great Healer," they said to each other.

The Good Samaritan

In the days when Jesus lived there were many people who knew and loved him but there were some others who did not like him and always tried to make trouble. Jesus was talking to some men and most of them who lived in Jerusalem who often asked him questions, trying to make him say something that would cause trouble. Jesus told them that they should love their neighbors. He knew that they did not like the people of another tribe, the Samaritans. So when they asked him, "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus told them a story. It was about a man who was going from his home in Jerusalem to the city of Jericho.

The way was dangerous. The road was between mountains and rough. It was dark there and there were large rocks and bushes on both sides of the road. There were many twists and sharp turns. Sometimes bad men would hide in the bushes and behind the rocks and wait for a traveller to pass by so they could rob him. When they saw a man going down the road they would jump out and hit him over the head with a stick. Then they would take his money, his clothes and anything that he had. If he had a donkey they would take it or drive it off. Often the man was left badly hurt or dead beside the road.

As the man from Jerusalem reached one of the bad turns in the road a robber jumped out and hit him over the head with a stick, then took all he had, even his clothes and left him half dead beside the road.

As the man from Jerusalem reached one of the bad turns in the road a robber jumped out and hit him over the head with a stick, then took all he had, even his clothes and left him half dead beside the road. As the traveller lay there groaning with pain a man went down the road toward Jerusalem. He saw that the man was hurt, but turned his head away saying, "He has been robbed but he is not from my town, so why should I stop to help him?" He went on his way toward the city.

Soon another man hurried along the road. He heard someone groan and looked to see who it was. He saw the man all hurt and bleeding, but said, "I have much to do and am in a hurry. I cannot stop to help him now, anyway, I do not know him." So he hurried on down the road.

The poor traveller lay there with the hot sun shining upon him. He was very thirsty and in great pain. He prayed that someone would soon come to help him.

In a little while he heard the footsteps of a donkey and thought, "Surely someone will come and help me this time." But he was disappointed when he saw that the man on the donkey was a stranger

from another tribe. He thought to himself, "He is a Samaritan. He will not help me because his people do not like or have anything to do with us from Jerusalem."

When the stranger drew near he saw that the man was hurt and needed help. He climbed down from his donkey and hurried to see how he could help him. He gave the man a drink and put medicine and bandages upon his cuts. He said, "You are badly hurt and are not able to walk. Those robbers left you in a bad shape. You must ride my donkey and I will walk along beside you and see that you do not fall off."

He took the man to a nearby house and asked the people who lived there to take care of him until he was able to travel.

The man was very thankful that the Samaritan who was not even a member of his own tribe had been kind to him. He told all his friends about him and decided that he too would be a good neighbor and show kindness whenever he could.

(Written by Cora Wellington)

A Boy is Rescued

In a shack made of mud, old tin and old lumber, with dirt floor, laid a three year old child who was suffering from sores and starvation. The boy was a member of the Yaqui Indian tribe. They were refugees from Mexico who lived about fifteen miles southeast of the city of Phoenix, Arizona. This boy had been born of a mother who had been sick with tuberculosis. After his mother's death, he was left in his father's care. His father was not very much interested in him. And so this was his condition when Mrs. Beihn, a white widowed lady who had given her life to spreading the Gospel, found him.

One day as this white lady missionary was making her rounds visiting the homes of the Yaqui Indians and ministering to those who needed help, she came to this hut and saw the distress within. She felt sad for this little boy as she saw him lying on the dirt floor wrapped in old ragged blankets and filthy rags. She decided to take the boy home where she could do something for him. She asked the boy's uncle if she could take him. The man said, "You can take him, for there's nothing I can do for him."

So Mrs. Biehn took the little boy home and doctored him and fed him good nourishing food. In a few months the boy was on the road to good health. She did not stop with that. She taught him about Jesus as she had done with the other little Yaqui children. When Luke grew up to school age he began to attend the school Mrs. Biehn was teaching. He is now attending a mission school conducted by the Presbyterian Church. He is now a high school student at this

mission school. Some day he will be ready to go back and share the good news with his people.

(Written by Joshua Porter)

Dr. Cook's First School among the Pimas

The little one-room adobe school with its flat mud roof stood out among the mesquites, the sage brush and the cactus with the bright December sun glaring on it. Near by was the little Pima village with its willow-weed thatched huts daubed with mud.

Around the tiny school building played several long-haired Indian boys, their copper bodies glistening in the sunshine. Every few moments they stopped to peer in the eastern direction as though they were expecting someone. Antonio, with his keen eyes, was the first to spy a big gray horse appearing over the rise. He gave the signal and, like a flash, the boys were off, headed in the direction of the horse. One swift glance and they all raced over the desert path toward their teacher who was coming from the Agency.

Chuket kun (Antonio in English) got there first so he was the first to be lifted up on the great gray horse while Dr. Cook dismounted. In a moment two other boys got there and they too were lifted up on to the back of the patient horse while the boys proudly rode in the direction of the school and other boys who had gathered, longingly waited for their turns.

Still other boys lurked shyly near the school or in the doorways of their houses, while those who had come to know the new teacher and had learned that he always had pieces of bread and lumps of sugar to give them, dashed into the one-room school building and sat down on the planks which were used for benches, while Dr. Cook took his place on the platform and called the school to order.

Keeping the school in order was a difficult task in those early days for the boys had not the slightest idea what discipline or an orderly schoolroom meant. While their teacher patiently tried to teach them the Lord's Prayer, and the Twenty-third Psalm in English, the boys wrestled and pummeled each other on the dirt floor or peered out through the round port holes which had been cut in the side wall for rifle holes, should a wild band of marauding Apaches descend upon them in a raid.

Day after day, week after week, Dr. Cook, their white teacher, strove to teach the boys something of the Christian religion. When it seemed as though he could in no way gain their attention he would kneel in prayer. Then and then only would these wild, undisciplined Pima boys pause with the stirring of a new respect for their teacher who was so evidently in contact with an unseen spirit.

Discouraged as he must often have been, Dr. Cook could hardly imagine

that twenty-five years from that time one of those boys who rolled around on the floor would be the greatly respected elder of the Christian Church which had grown in strength until it had influenced for good the entire Pima tribe and had reached out in its missionary zeal to the Papago tribe and even to their deadly enemies, the Apaches.

(Story written cooperatively by students of Cook Christian Training School with facts gathered through interview with Antonio Juan)

Up From the Canyon

Something over forty years ago, in a little canyon tributary to the Grand Canyon, was born a small black-eyed Supai Indian boy. This baby, Jim, was the child of Gatagama. His beginning in life was uneventful but he was destined to become one of the leaders of his tribe.

When Baby Jim was only three months old he narrowly escaped death when their one-room shack was laid low in a terrific wind storm. His mother and four other children sleeping in the shack were all killed. But hours after the storm, neighbors and friends dug little Jim out from the debris. In spite of the fact that he had been buried under dirt and logs he was unharmed. Might this have been because he was destined for a life of special service to his tribe?

Left with no mother, the good women of the Supai village saw that Jim was fed, clothed and otherwise cared for. His father also kept a watchful eye upon him. His father, who was second chief in the tribe, was a good man and was anxious for his people to do right. However, Jim grew up indifferent and careless concerning what his father wished for him. He began to wander about with the boys of the village. He ran about by day or by night, never giving thought to where things came from or what was going to happen to him. He started to the government school when he was six years old but left school after he had finished the third grade. From then on he wandered around doing little except to form bad and reckless habits and drifting from bad to worse. He seemed to have no one close enough to him to teach him a better way of living.

When Jim was fifteen or sixteen years of age, he got work with a white cowboy who taught him many things. He learned how to rope and care for cattle and horses. He became known as a good "cow-man." But he also learned the ways of evil from the white man. He had his first taste of "fire-water!" Then he began to drink it frequently. It was not long before he was becoming intoxicated. When under the influence of drink he did things that he would not usually do. When in the company of the white man Jim was led to do many evil things. He became their partner in crime. He even

stole horses and cattle, rebranding them and selling them for their own. All he thought of was getting more money for his partner.

Often when Jim was under the influence of liquor he went home cross and made his wife and children very unhappy. He would also quarrel and fight with his neighbors, getting into arguments with them over trifles. Matters went from bad to worse. But there were two sincere Christian friends of Jim's who were watching every move that he made. They knew that Jim had some fine qualities. But they also knew that he was wasting his life with evil living. They knew how his fine wife, Viola, and his five lovely children had to suffer because of Jim's evil doings.

One day Jim's best friend, Mr. Shepherd, had a talk with him. He said, "Jim, you have a fine wife. You have five good children. You love them. You want to do what is right for them. You have many friends. You have many Indian acquaintances. You also have business with many white men. But I have a Friend I want you to know. His name is Jesus and I want to tell you about Him." So Jim's friends, Mr. Shepherd and Mr. Gordon, told him of their best Friend and of his love for all mankind. At first Jim was not especially interested. Every evening for three weeks these two men talked with Jim and read from the Bible to him until late into the night. And every day Jim went back to his old companions and their evil ways. He kept on taking cattle and horses, drinking "firewater" and getting into all kinds of trouble.

But one day something happened. For God was working in Jim's heart. Finally one day he told his Christian friends, "I am ready now to hear about this Friend of yours. I want to know more about that Friend Jesus." So they spent many evenings together studying the Bible and talking about how God could change the lives of men. They spent many hours praying for Jim and for his family, that they might come to know Jesus as their Saviour. One evening at the end of three weeks, Jim's heart was completely changed. He said to them, "I want to take Jesus to be my personal Saviour."

Mr. Shepherd sent Jim to a Bible conference where he had the chance to study the Bible for three weeks and to come into fellowship with other sincere Christians, both white and Indian. At this conference he made his first public confession of Christ. When Jim returned to the canyon this friend of his followed every move of his and continued to help him. From that time Jim's whole outlook was changed. No longer did he want to go with his old companions. Often they would stop at his house and beg Jim to go with them to drink, gamble and carouse. But when the temptation was strong, a voice within would say to him, "Jim, you promised to take me as your Saviour. I will be your friend. Don't go with those men who will lead you into trouble."

Jim quit his stealing and worked hard at his job. His wife stood by

him and between them they started a Christian home. They read the Bible and studied it together and had prayers in their family circle. One week when the missionary had made the hard trip down into the valley, Jim told him the good news of his decision to follow Christ and asked that he be baptized. So they went down to the Supai Creek which runs through the canyon and there a very impressive baptismal service was held. All the village people were present for the great event. All of them were witnesses to the fact that Jim was giving up the old way of life and starting out on the Christian way. Jim and his wife, in spite of many temptations and hardships, remained true to their new-found faith. No urging of old friends, no taunts of neighbors could move them from their determination to follow Christ.

But that was just the beginning. They could not keep the good news of what Jesus the Saviour had done for them to themselves. They started a little Sunday School and gathered the children and others together to tell them about Jesus and his love. They decided to give themselves wholly and completely to living the Jesus' Way of life. But when they started to teach others, Jim soon decided that he did not know enough to teach his people, so he, his wife and children made the hard trip up out of the canyon and enrolled at the Cook Christian Training School. They are now studying so as to go back to the Supai Canyon, carrying the good news of Jesus to their own tribe.

(Written by Jim Crooks himself as a contribution to the Vacation School course in the hopes that his Christian Testimony may be helpful to others)

A Gift for Their Church

In the land of the Dakotas the children of the Ascension Presbyterian church were eagerly waiting for the next Sunday when their special gift was to be presented to the church. For weeks and for months, all through the spring and all through the long hot summer they had been saving their pennies, their nickels and their dimes to put into a special bank. They watched the pile grow larger and larger. Finally came the day when all their dimes and nickels and pennies were taken out of their bank by their teacher and were sent on their way to buy the special gift for their church.

Finally one day, in the mail, there came a large package. When it was taken out of its box and all the wrappings were unwound, they exclaimed with joy to see the beautiful gleaming silver communion set which their pennies and nickels and dimes and quarters and dollars had bought. Here was their own beautiful gift for their church--one of which they could be very proud. When their fathers and their mothers, their brothers and their sisters and all their Christian friends took the wine in the Communion cups and the bread from the Communion plates, it would be their gift which was being used.

And so they asked the missionary's wife to make a presentation speech, and each one of them learned a Bible verse or the words of a song to recite on Sunday morning when they presented their gift. Together they sang,

"Bless thou the gift our hands have brought
Bless thou the work our hearts have planned,
Ours is the faith, the will, the thought,
The rest, O Lord, is in Thy hand."

Never again would the little white church be the church. It would always be "our church" because of their love gift.

Wilson Walker--Pima Missionary to the Apaches

Into a great Pima Indian camp meeting near Sacaton, Arizona, came three Apache Indians who had heard of the peace that had come into the hearts of the Pimas when they had become Christians. The Apaches wanted the same sort of thing for their people. So, during a lull in the meeting, one of them stood up, and in a loud voice said, "Will you Pimas give us a missionary?"

Silence reigned, following this exceedingly simple but direct request. After a little pause a young fellow with a very serious look on his face said in a rather reluctant tone, "Well, if nobody else will do it, I will go."

So this young man left his store on the reservation and went to the Cook Bible Training School for training, taking his wife and three children with him. In the mornings he attended classes. In the afternoons he mowed lawns, sawed wood and did other odd jobs to buy bread for his family. It was hard work but he stayed with it. On Wednesdays and Saturdays he took a buck-board and ponies and rode thirty-three miles over desert roads to Fort McDowell where the Apaches lived. There he held services. Then late at night he would return to the school.

One night while still ten miles from the church such a wild storm arose that the ponies could not face it and kept turning around to get their backs to the storm. Finally he tied them to a tree and pulling the canvas over his shoulders, he started to climb the last ten miles up along the rocky path to the Fort. He was receiving no pay for this trip. It was dark and he was cold and wet. Perhaps he should return to Phoenix. No one was watching--or wait--was someone seeing him? The way was hard and the cactus thorns were everywhere, should he step off the trail. Then, too, probably only one or two people would be at church. But he kept hearing a still, small Voice, so he stumbledon.

Late at night he arrived. Looking in at the window he was in time

to hear one Apache say to another, "Let's go, that Pima will never be here tonight." Then the other replied, "Sure he will, if he can get here. Give him time. Those Pimas were not scared of us in the old days and he won't be afraid of the storm." How glad Wilson Walker was that he had not been a quitter.

When his course of training was finished the Walkers moved to Fort McDowell to begin regular work. There was no salary. There was no house for them, so they spread some blankets over a mesquite tree for shade and protection from the burning Arizona sun. They made their home under this tree, twenty-seven miles from the nearest store, with no money to depend upon except what was given them by the Pima churches. Time went on and still there was little interest except on the part of the three Apaches who had gone to the Pima camp meeting. And every Apache family made native liquor the whole family getting drunk every Friday. Finally Wilson's wife said to him, "Come, Wilson, let's go home. I'm discouraged." But Wilson replied, "What's the use in getting discouraged. We'll stay."

Many months passed. Wilson heard that the Apaches were going to make an irrigation ditch so he decided to help them. He found that they were going to use a team and a scrape shovel. The workmen would stoop behind the team, taking hold of the handles and walking along. It was hard, back-breaking work. When he offered to help the leader said, "Go ahead, there's the team and the shovel." So while he went to work the Apaches went over and sat down in the shade of a tree. Hour after hour they watched him working in the heat while they talked and laughed and had a good time. But he kept on going even when his back was breaking. Though parched with thirst, he scorned to ask for a drink of water. That might be showing a weakness. They were watching to see what kind of stuff this missionary had in him. Dinner time came. His tongue was like a piece of leather. They were using their canteens but they did not offer him any water to drink and he was determined not to ask for it. They went away to eat. He stayed on the job. In an hour or so they returned. They looked casually at the amount of dirt he had removed, then deliberately sat down again in the shade. What a fool he was! Why not leave this work and go back to his own people? These Apaches did not appreciate his labor of love. But he stayed at the job. Hour after hour passed as he bent over that crazy shovel, drinking in dust, half smothered by heat, his back nearly broken, sweaty and dirty, thirst and weak from lack of food. Finally about four o'clock in the afternoon the Apache leader came over and said, "You'd better come and eat now." How welcome those words were! They took Wilson Walker home, and gave him all the food he could eat. Perseverance had won the day. He had won them. The following day they all came to church to hear this man preach who wouldn't quit under fire.

It was not many years after that that any one visiting the village on a Communion Sunday would have seen people gathered in that church who had driven over one hundred miles to attend the services. The Apaches stretched hands across the communion table to grasp the hands of their Pima preacher whose tribe, in the olden days, often had to defend themselves in battle from members of this same tribe.

In this same village no more native liquor was made. It was a transformed community.

When later Wilson Walker went back to the Pima reservation to die of tuberculosis which he had contracted through the hard work and exposure, nearly the entire Apache tribe came to his funeral, a fine tribute to this brave soldier of the cross who had dared to share the good news of Jesus across tribal borders.

Carrying the Gospel Across the Borders

In the year of 1911 the Christians among the Nez Perce Indians of Idaho were moved by the Holy Spirit to raise some money and to send some of their own men to tell the story of Jesus to other tribes. During that same year they sent one of their own number, James Hayes, to Arizona to preach to the Indians there.

Mr. Hayes preached on the Pima Reservation. Then he went to the Navajo Reservation and to other communities. He was escorted on his tour through Arizona by Dr. George Logie, who at that time had been appointed as superintendent of the Cook Bible School now known as the Cook Christian Training School.

The message of Mr. Hayes was of interest to all that heard it. His experience with his own people who were not Christian but later became converted showed that he had a message of worth to give to others. He had been successful in bringing even strong medicine men to Christ. He had many experiences in helping the people of his own tribe to know the saving power of Jesus.

Mr. Hayes knew the Indian sign language very well. Often when he had no interpreter, he used that method of giving his message.

Mr. Hayes was still in Arizona when the Cook Bible School opened for the first time in the fall of 1911. He told his story there and was very helpful to the new students. He stayed for sometime and encouraged them in their first efforts for that was the beginning of the school. He encouraged the students to continue with their studies until they would be able to take the message of Jesus to their own people. He reminded them that they might have to undergo many hardships in order to complete their schooling, but that they would have Christ to lean upon. Through him they would be able to conquer trials as they arose.

To this day the Indians of Arizona remember and talk about James Hayes and how he left his tribe in the Northwest to take the message of Jesus across the borders of states to other tribes in the southwest.

(written by Joshua Porter)

The Nez Perce Tribe Share the Good News

"We have come for the White Man's Book of Heaven." With these words upon their lips four Indians startled the people of the city of St. Louis over one hundred years ago. They found that these Indians had traveled over two thousand miles from the great Northwest because word had come to them that the white men further east had a Book which told about the true God and the way in which to worship him.

How sad were these men when they were obliged to turn backward on the long, long trail which led homeward without this book in their possession! All they had was a promise that some day a messenger would come to them bringing a copy of this book.

Every year members of this tribe would go out on the hill and look to the east to see whether the promised messenger were in sight. Then about four years later there came a missionary and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding, who brought with them the Book containing in it the Good News of the true God and of Jesus the Friend and Saviour. These missionaries journey over a hundred miles up the river and established a mission among the Nez Perce tribe. During their stay among these people many accepted the Good News and became Christians. Mr. Spaulding often took some of these Christians with him when he went to preach the Gospel to the people of the surrounding tribes. Then for over thirty years the Nez Perce tribe was without a missionary and they were obliged to carry on all alone.

When Mr. Spaulding returned in 1870 he took up the work there where he had left off. There also came to the mission, one year before Mr. Spaulding's death, a woman missionary, Miss Sue McBeth, who began the work of training Indian leaders for the churches which were being organized. As a result, within the next twenty years, ten Nez Perce Indian Christians were ordained as ministers of the gospel. These men not only cared for the six Nez Perce churches but they continued to share the Good News with other tribes. Parties of men, women and children would start out on their ponies, taking long journeys over mountain and plain, sometimes without water, except what they carried with them. They would camp out by the way at night, going on to the Shoshones, the Bannocks, the Spokanes and the Umatilla tribes. Everywhere they told the good news about Jesus, the Saviour, the Good News members of their tribe had once traveled so far to seek in vain.

Beside serving their own six churches and conducting regular work in other tribes they have gone out to assist missionaries in holding evangelistic services in almost every tribe of the Northwest. A few years ago they had calls from eleven different tribes and, by dividing their forces, they reached nine of these tribes in one year, travelling over five states and working under four denominations.

One of their number had told the good news of Jesus to twenty-five tribes. He had gone to nearly every tribe from the Canadian border to Arizona.

(From an article in The Missionary Review)

Paul Writes to His Christian Friends Far Away

In a gloomy prison cell, chained to two stalwart Roman soldiers, in the great pagan city of Rome, sat Paul, the ambassador for Christ and for the Christian religion. For years, since he had met Christ along the road and been converted to the Christian way, Paul had traveled from city to city preaching and teaching the Good News of the Gospel of Christ. As a result of his years of work there were many groups of Christian followers scattered all over the Roman world. All these claimed Paul as their beloved leader.

As Paul sat in prsion his mind kept turning to these friends of his in Ephesus, in Corinth, in Philippi and in other Roman cities. His prayers went out to them too that they might remain true to Christ and to the Gospel they had heard from him. For he knew no prison walls or Roman guards could imprison his prayers. And there was something else he could do too. For in this Roman prison Paul was permitted to have pen and other writing materials. So he spent hours each day writing letters to his Christian friends in all the different churches. Then faithful messengers of his would take these letters and travel over land and sea bringing them to the different churches.

What rejoicing there was in one of these churches when the messenger brought a letter from their friend, Paul, to the leaders! What rejoicing there was when on the Lord's Day and the faithful Christians gathered for their worship the leader of their church could unroll one of these cherished letters and hear the words of inspiration and guidance which Paul sent to them! Such a letter was truly Good News for them. And the best part of it is that we can still read these messages from Paul today for they are to be found within the covers of our Bibles.

Pictures Which May be Used

The best assortment of pictures for this Vacation School unit will be from among the large flat pictures published in sets for the Beginners and the Primary Departmental Graded Lessons. If you do not have a supply of the large ones, the smaller pictures on the front of the pupils' leaflets may be cut out, mounted and used. In addition to these, pictures cut from magazines or from calendars showing children in various activities, home life or community life may be used.

For convenience, these large Graded Lessons pictures are listed

according to the lessons with which they will fit in and designated according to the quarter in which they appear:

Lesson 1. Sharing the Good News of the Baby Jesus

Oct. - Dec. 1938	"They Offered unto Him Gifts"
Oct. - Dec. 1940	"The Baby Lying in a Manger"
Oct. - Dec. 1941	Shepherds came to see Jesus
	Shepherds Find the Baby
Oct. - Dec. 1942	Wise Men from the East
	Wise Men Bring Gifts
	"Asleep on the Hay"

Lesson 2. Sharing the Good News of Jesus the Healer

April - June 1940	Jesus Heals a Sick Mother
Jan. - March 1939	Jesus Helps a Sick Man
Jan. - March 1941	"Are you Forgiven?"
	Jesus Helped them All
July - Sept. 1941	Jesus Heals a Deaf Man
Oct. - Dec. 1941	Jesus Helps a Blind Man

Lesson 3. Sharing the Good News of Jesus the Teacher

Oct. - Dec. 1941	Jesus Tells of God's Love
	"Lord, Teach us to Pray"
Jan. - Mar. 1942	Jesus Tells of God's Love and Care
Oct. - Dec. 1942	"God will Help you"

Lesson 4. Sharing the Good News of Jesus the Saviour

July - Sept. 1941	Jesus Talks to God
April- June 1941	"Jesus is Risen"
	"He is Risen"
	"I am Alive Forever More"

Lesson 5. Jesus Calling for Helpers

Jan. - March 1940	Jesus Borrows Peter's Boat

Lesson 6. Sharing the Good News at Home

Jan. - March 1940	The Bible Tells about God
July - Sept. 1941	The Bible Tells about God
	We Read about Jesus
Oct. - Dec. 1941	Hearing about God's Laws
Oct. - Dec. 1942	"Grandmother, Tell me a Story"

Lesson 7. Sharing the Good News in Church and Sunday School

Oct. - Dec. 1939	A Friendly Church
Oct. - Dec. 1940	Friends Together at Church

Lesson 7 (cont'd)

April - June 1941	"We are Glad to be Here"
	"A Sunday School Under a Tree"
July - Sept.1941	Reading the Bible
Oct. - Dec. 1941	We Think of God Together
July - Sept.1942	A Long-Ago School
Oct. - Dec. 1942	A Helper in our Church Today
	A Church in Jesus' Day
	A Church Today

Lesson 8. Sharing the Good News in Community and Neighborhood

April - June 1940	Neighborhood from many Lands
April - June 1941	Learning about Jesus in the Mountains

Lesson 9. Sharing the Good News across the Borders

July - Sept.1941	Bibles for People Today
Jan. - Mar. 1942	Indians Hear about Jesus
	Going to Church in Alaska

Lesson 10. Sharing the Good News in Far Countries

Jan. - Mar. 1942	Africans Learn about Jesus
	Going to Church in Burma
April - June 1942	Singing Praises in China

Memory Verses Used

Luke 2:10-11	John 3:16	Matthew 28:18-20
Matthew 7:11	Acts 10:34	

A Grace for the Table

"Thank you for the world so sweet
Thank you for the food we eat,
Thank you for the birds that sing,
Thank you, God, for everything."

or

"God is great and God is good,
And we thank Him for this food. Amen."

We were unable to get copyright permits on the following songs for this publication.

Hail America
Our Prayer
Huron Christmas Carol
Bless Thou the Gifts
Happy Family
The Word of God Shall Guide My Feet
We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

Most of these songs may be found in the Primary Music and Worship and the Hymns for Junior Worship. If you cannot locate these hymns, you may be able to find satisfactory substitutes in your Hymnal.

Mimeographing by
Dr. Randolph's office

March, 1943
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